RADICALISM EXEMPLIFIED.

In order to afford our readers an illustration of the strange political morality, or, we should rather say, immorality, which is countenanced by "radicalism," we cite from the last number of the Boston Commonwealth the following observations in defence of what it calls the extraordinary means taken to procure the control of the House of Representatives in the Congress which is to meet on Morday next :

"The Thirty eighth Congress is about to assemble. The Senate will have a large Administration majority, and the Hon-cone sufficiently large to elect the caucus nominathat for speaker, clerk, and other offices. We say this without having carefully examined the tables, for we assume that the Administration would not have resorted to its somewhat extraordinary means of carrying elections in the Border States, unless it had been sure that these means, st coessfully used, would give it a working majority. do not find fault with the machi ery used to carry Maryland and Delaware. Having nearly lost the control of the House by its blunders in the conduct of the war from March, 1861, to the fall of 1862, the Administration owed it to the country to recover that control somehow. recover it regularly was impossible; so irregularity had to be resorted to. Popular institutions will not suffer, for the copperhead element will have a much larger number of members to both branches than it is entitled to by its popular vote. Ohio, with its ninety thousand Republican majori'y, will be represented by five Republicans and a dozen or more copperheads It is fitting that this misrepresentation of popular sentiment in the great State of the offset, if necessary, by a loyal delegation from Maryland and Delaware, won even at the expense of mili-tary interierence—11 laws are silent amidst the clank of arms, we must take care that the sggregate public opiniou of the country obtains recognition, somehow or other."

In giving this specimen of political effrontery we would not have our readers suppose that we impute to the Administration as a crime the charge of which this Boston sheet makes itself the supple apologist, on the assumption that the crime had been actually committed. Whatever may have been the motives of Gen. Schenck in taking military surveillance of the elections in Maryland and Delaware, (respecting which we have nothing more to say than we have already said,) we feel bound in candor to acquit the Administration of any complicity in the meditated purposes which are deemed by the Commonwealth to afford the only sufficient explanation of the anomalous proceedings it justifies. We know that Gen. Schenck took his initiative in this matter without instructions from the President, who interfered in the premises only for the purpose of countermanding that portion of the orders which, whether so designed or not, would most obviously lend itself to a violent interference with the right of suffrage. If the President had meditated that rape of the elective franchise which the Boston paper ascribes to the Administration, he would not have modified the orders as originally promulgated, for their greatest efficiency as a disturbing element resided in that clause which the President annulled the instant it was brought to Nor, if the President had been an accessory be-

fore the fact to this outrage on the laws of a loyal State, would be have been so prompt to pledge his word to call to account all officers who might be proved to have committed the excesses charged against them. And it is within our knowledge that charges of the gravest character, supported by affidavits, have been lodged with the President against certain of the agents distributed throughout Maryland for the purpose of carrying General Schenck's orders into effect. In the preoccupations incident to the impending opening of Congress we presume the President has not found time to give these papers a proper examination, fortunately irreparable.

But what shall be said of the political recklessness which does not scruple first to impute crime to the Administration and then to apologize for it? Assuming that it was "the Administration" which resorted to "the somewhat extraordinary means of carrying the elections in the Border States," this worthy exponent of "radicalism" does not hesitate to say that it "finds no fault with the machinery used" to secure an Administration majority in the House of Representatives "large enough to elect the caucus nominee for Speaker, Clerk, and other officers." The Administration, it says, having, by its own blunders in the conduct of the war from March, 1861, to the fall of 1862, nearly lost the control of the House, "owed it to the country to recover that control somehow." And, as laws are silent amid the clank of arms, it was most convenient to restore the political balance by throwing the sword into the scale that was in danger of kicking the beam. It was fitting that the loss of political power last autumn in the West should be redressed, "if necessary," by a loyal delegation from Maryland and Delaware, won this year, "even at the expense of military interference." "We must take care that the aggregate public opinion of the country finds recognition somehow or other."

We do not quote these avowals for the purpose of controverting them. We spare ourselves this humiliation, and our readers the insult to their intelligence which would be implied by supposing there could be any necessity to argue against such monstrous assaults on public and political morality We set them before our readers as a simple illustration of radicalism, in its natural efflorescence and fruits.

RECRUITS FOR THE REGULAR ARMY.

The time for collisting recruits in the regular army, under General Orders No. 190, June 25, 1863, and No. 338 of October 16, 1863, has been extended to June 25. 1864, by the War Department, during which time the extra bounty of three hundred dollars will be paid. Recruits hereafter obtained for the regular army are to be credited to the district in which they are enlisted. The ollowing is the order on this subject :

ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,

Washington, November 27, 1863. Sin: All men who, in future, enlist into the regular army, under the last call of the President for troops, will be credited upon the quota of the district in which they enlist. Notice of each enlistment must be sent to the Superintendent of Volunteer Recruiting Service for the State, and to the Provost Marshal of the District in which You will immediately notify each recruiting officer

under your command of the above, and instruct them to forward to you, with the tri monthly reports, a separate report (as per form on page three of this sheet) of the ruits thus enlisted

You will forward a consolidated report in that form to this office, with your tri-monthly report; you will in your tri-monthly report, give the names of all officers under your command at the depot, as well as those who are at station. I am, sir, very respectfully your obedient servant,

E. D. Townsend, Ass't. Adjt. Gen.

Col. G. Loomis, U. S. A. Supt. Gen. Recruiting Service, Fort Columbus, N. Y. H.

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THE CONSERVATIVE PLATFORM.

It is known to our readers that during the sessions of the last Congress, its members, representing different political views with regard to the spirit and manner in which the pending war should be prosecuted, were in the habit of meeting from time to time for the purpose of taking counsel with each other, and determining the line of conduct they should pursue. These meetings were held alike by the "Republicans" and by the "Demo-Representatives—the results of their deliberations being severally announced at the time in a series of resolutions which were published in our columns.

A friend who, as a member of the last Congress. the "Conservative" members of that body on the 28th of last June, has requested us to reproduce for the information of our readers the resolutions adopted on that occasion. We accordingly reprint chair and appointing George Tucker clerk, after which an to-day the entire series. It is known that the late Mr. Crittenden was the chairman of that meeting, and we may add that these resolutions were from the pen of that eminent statesman, who, as the author of the well known resolution, adopted with such unanimity by both Houses, defining the object of the war, was properly selected to indite the declarations which purport to have been conceived and adopted in explanation and reaffirmation of that resolution

In republishing these resolutions it can hardly be necessary for us to inform our readers that we concurred in their general purport at the time they were first promulgated, and, greatly as we regret that the mutations of public opinion and the drift of events have combined to divide the loyal sentiment of the country which was once united in its adhesion to the "Crittenden Resolution," we can only repeat, in retrospect of the past and in prospect of the future, that, according to our impressions, all the real or seeming departures from the spirit and letter of that resolution have resulted in damage to the national cause. We know there are others, for whose intelligence and candor we have the highest respect, who do not concur with us in this view, and as we ask for our own opinions the toleration due to the sincerity with which they are held, so we cheerfully concede to all that liberty which independent and honest thought may rightfully claim when exercised upon topics that forbid indifference by their tremendous issues, and which perhaps exclude the hope of unanimity by the difficulty and complexity of the subjects involved in this great discussion. No man held his opinions with more tenacity than the venerable statesman who was the author of these resolutions, and yet none more constantly exemplified in his words and conduct that conciliatory demeanor which is at once the offspring of charity and the bond of patriotism.

MILITARY CRITICISMS.

We find in a late number of the New York Tribune an claborate review of the military operations which, in the Department of Tennessee, immediately preceded and attended the repulse of the army of Gen. Rose rans in the battles of Chicka-

This review, which is very minute and apparently authentic in its statements, has been evidently prepared by one having access to official sources of information, and, as it is avowedly published in vindication of the removal of Gen. Rosecrans from his command, it may be proper for us but when he does so, we have the abiding conviction to reproduce the salient points of the writer's that he will do his duty in the premises, as far as representations, because there are those-our readplaint against the Administration on account of its decision in regard to that officer.

Availing ourselves partially of the condensation of the reviewer's statements, as contained in the same number of the paper which gives them currency, we may say that it appears from their purport that our military authorities in this city, after having had their patience severely tried by the antecedent "delays" of Gen. Rosecrans, assumed from the enemy at the battle of Chickamauga." the responsibility of the issue of the campaign up to the time of the fall of Chattanooga by ordering Gen. Rosecrans peremptorily to cross the Tennes-

It is also represented that upon the evacuation of out satisfying himself thoroughly as to the real intents of his adversary, by reconnoissances and otherwise, proceeded to act on the assumption that Bragg was in full retreat, and upon that theory divided his command into three columns, and ordered them to move over three serarate routes. twenty to thirty five miles apart from each other. for the purpose of intercepting the supposed flight of the enemy. This mistaken pursuit took the different parts of the army beyond supporting distance of each other, over lines of march converging upon the position assumed by Bragg, so that they were exposed to the danger of successive attack and destruction by the whole rebel force. And it is added that this division of his forces besides being in itself indefensible on military principles, was also in open violation of specific instructions from Gen. Halleck in this city. And when Gen. Rosecrans had discovered his mistake as to the movements of the enemy, and the necessity of rescuing his army from the peril of destruction in detail, he made his dispositions so unskilfully, it is charged, that the army was drawn into a general action while making a movement by the left flank-a disadvantage which brought it to the verge of defeat at the very beginning of the conflict, and rendered it impossible for our troops to win the battle of the 19th of last September-the first of the conflicts which resulted in the repulse of Chickamauga

Gen. Rosecrans is also severely censured by the official reviewer for abandoning the field of battle and retreating to Chattanooga while the sound of battle clearly indicated that Gen. Thomas was still making a stubborn resistance to the enemy in his

The Tribune concludes its summary as follows: "Thus it seems that, had Gen. Resecrate carried out Gen. Hatleck's instructions, the loyal people would have never had to mourn over a disaster to the Army of the Cumberland. We will not say that a battle was avoidable; but we hold that it could have been fought on our own terms as to time and place instead of those of the enemy, and that in that contingency quite another result would

The reverses on the Chicksmanga, of course, controlled the recent operations of Gen Grant. These have been successful; but it should not be forgotten that with them a double expenditure of life and limb has been incurred and that the preparations for the efforts to retrieve the discomfiture of September has used up the season for the contemplated fall campaign into the interior of Georgia and renders necessary the postponement of further offen-sive movements in that quarter until next spring."

VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE.

The Virginia (loyal) Legislature met at Alexandria Monday last, in the chambers of the City Councils.

The following members were present and were duly qualified by taking the oath of office, viz: F. W. Lemosey of Norfolk and Princess Anne; Mr. Mercer, of Loudoun; T. M. Brown, of Fairfax; Thos. H. Kellum, of Accomac and Mr. Whitehurst, of Norfolk city. Mr. L. C. P. Cowper, appointed to a'll the vacancy occasioned by the resig nation of Lieutenant Governor Polsey, also appeared, and having been sworn into office, took the chair as presiding officer in the body. Frederick A. Augustine, of Fairfax cratic" and "Union" members of the House of was chosen clerk; E. E. Mason, of Fairfax, sergeant atarms, and Wm. Hough, of Loudoun, doorkeeper. As soon as the organization was completed an adjournment took lace till Tuesday.

In the House of Delegates there were present Reube ohnson, of Alexandria county; James W. Brownley and actively participated in the deliberations held by R. E. Nash, of the county of Norfolk and city of Ports mouth; Dr. J. J. Henshaw and J. M. Downey, of Loudoun county; John R. Birch, of Northampton county, and Enoch Haielip, of Prince William county. A temporary organization was effected by calling R. Johnson to the adjournment took place to Tuesday, when the message Gov. Pierpont was expected to be presented.

Many of the members elect were not in attendance They were expected to arrive on Tuesday.

NEWS FROM LATE RICHMOND PAPERS.

Gen. Lee, in a despatch dated at Orange Court-House on the 2d instant, informs the Confederates authorities the retreat of Gen. Meade during the preceding night. H says that pursuit was made on the morning of the 2d astant, but that the Federal army had recrossed the Rapid Ann, and only a few prisoners were made.

ORANGE COURT-HOUSE, DECEMBER 6, 1883. The enemy have recrossed the Rapid-Ann to Culpepe by the fords as they came without a fight. One hundred prisoners go to Richmond to day. Nothing was left by the enemy in his retreat. The whole army was on this side of the river. Five hundred prisoners were captured during

ORANGE COURT-HOUSE, DECEMBER 4, 1863. Two hundred and fifty more prisoners were received last night, picked up by our cavalry in pursuit of the ene They represent five corps of infantry and three divi sions of cavalry. Our scouts report that the enemy's infantry have fallen back to Fauquier, behind the Rappahannock, leaving only their cavalry in Culpeper. They burnt and destroyed every thing in the country occupied by them on this side of the river, reducing the inhabitants

A despatch from Jackson (Miss) states that the Federal ral cavalry crossed the Big Black river on the 3d instant force, and were ranging towards Canton.

The Senate of Georgia has postponed indefinitely, by large mejority, the bill restricting the planting of cotton to one acre for each estate. The Legislature is to adjourn on the 12th instant.

GEN. BRAGG RELIEVED FROM COMMAND.

A despatch from Dalton, dated the 2d instant, states that Gen. Bragg had been relieved from his command at his own request. On the preceding night he was sere naded by the band of the Fourth Florida brigade, and be ing called out, said that he accepted, with gratitude and heartfelt thanks, the compliment tendered him. The as sociation long existing between them, he said, would cease the next day. He took a long and sad farewell of his troops, with the assurance that the memory of association with them would ever hold fresh in his mind. Generals Bate, Breckinridge, and Hardee were also serenaded, and made appropriate speeches. This news refutes the report that Gen. Breckinridge had been killed at Ringgold.

THE INTENDED PUNISHMENT OF BURNSIDE.

The Richmond Enquirer of the 5th instant, in anticipa tion of the capture of Gen. Burnside by Gen. Longstreet, commends the following paragraph of the Petersburg Express as making a "practical suggestion" as to the prope disposition to be made of so distinguished a prisoner:

"Should a kind, just Providence so will it that Burnside should fall into our hands, we trust that a cell in some prison, with a shaved head, coarse fare, prison garb, &c. will be instantly awarded him, as it was by his order that Gen Morgan was subjected to the outrages which he has endured. In this instance we are for the lex talionis in its strictest sense. An eye for an eye and a tooth for tooth is imperatively demanded, and it is the only mod by which we can compel the Yankees to conduct the war in accordance with the usages of civilized nations."

THE SIEGE OF KNOXVILLE RAISED.

Despatches from Dalton and Atlanta, dated the 4th Knoxville and is marching towards Abingdon, (Va.) Gen Bushrod Johnson had succeeded in effecting a junction he can repair what, in most of its aspects, is un- ers know that we are not of the number-who have with Longstreet without the loss of his supply train as supposed themselves to find grounds of grave com- previously reported. Gen. Vaugh, with his command, and one of Cheatham's regiments, was at Charleston, (Tenn.) trying to make his way to North Carolina.

> REBEL LOSS IN ARTILLERY. A despatch, dated at Dalton on the 3d instant, says: Our loss in artillery in the late battle was thirty eigh pieces, lost from the following batteries; Ferguson's, guns; Howell's, 2; McCant's, 2; Dent's, 5; Scott's, 3 Ystes', 3; Faler's, 3; Garity's, 1; Oliver's, 1; Ander Slocumb's, 6; Cobb's, 4; Harris', 2; Massen

THE UNION PRISONERS AT RICHMOND. The Richmond Dispatch states the number of Union prisoners confined in the prisons in and around Richmond, as shown by the official report of the 13th ultimo. Its figures are as follows: Prisoners of war, 12,747; citizen prison ers, 3; Yankee deserters, 3; negroes, 22; total, 12,775 Chattanooga by the enemy, Gen. Rosecrans, with- Among these are nine hundred and fifty-three commissione officers of different grades, from brigadier general down to third lieutenant.

RICHMOND MARRETS, DEC. 3, 1863.

Apples, per barrel	50	00	a	\$75	00
Bacon, per lb	2	75	a	3	00
Beans per bushel	15	00	8	20	00
Baet, fresh, per lb		75	a		80
Beef, salted, per lb		80	14		85
Butter, per lb	3	50	14	4	00
Coffee, per lb	9	UP	8	10	00
Corn per husbel	11	00	n	13	00
Corn meal, per bushel	14	00	a	-	-
Chee e, per lb	3	50	8	7	00
Candles, tallow, per lb	3	75	a	4	00
Flour, seperfine, per barret	05	60	-	108	60
Hay, per 160 lbs	12	00	8	-	-
	65	00	8	75	00
Onions, per bushel	30	00	8	31	0.
Pot stoes, Irish, per bushel	6	00	-	10	00
Sugar-Brown, per lb	3	00	a		25
Crushed, per lb	- 4	00	8	5	00
Wheat, per bushel	14	00	8	16	00
Specie—gold	11	50	8	12	50
gilver	9	50	8	10	50

ENLISTED MINORS.

Judge Advocate HOLT has decided that the President's late proclamation suspending the writ of habess corpus undoubtedly includes in its provisions the case of a minor collisted without his parents' content, in whose behalf, therefore, such writ cannot be issued; that minors be tween the ages of eighteen and twenty-one years cannot be discharged at all; that minors under eighteen cannot be discharged if in their oath of enlistment it is set forth that they are fully of that age, and that in case a minor actually under eighteen, whose age is correctly stated in his oath, or who has been enlisted or mustered without taking a formal oath, a discharge can be obtained only upon a full statement of all the facts in proper form, ad dressed to the discretion of the Secretary of War.

SECRETARY CHASE'S RESOURCES

The Washington correspondent of the New York Times says that Mr. Secretary Chase, at the last session, took good care to provide against any contingency which might arise from Congress being opposed to the Administration and the prosecution of the war. Without any further financial legislation by this Congress, the Secretary had within his grasp on the 1st of December \$1,100,000,000

1	1 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10	
	Balance of Five-twenties unsold	\$115,000,000
1		10,000,000
,	Balance in Treasury	29,000,000
1	Balance in Legal Tenders	40,000,000
	Balance in Interest-bearing Tressury Notes	350,000,000
,	Balance in Tariff bearing Treasury Notes	70,000,000
,	Balance in Internal Revenue Notes	80,000,000
	Balance in Ten-Forty Loan Notes	
٠	m + 1	

THIRTY-EIGHTH CONGRESS. FIRST SESSION.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 7, 1863.

IN SENATE.

This day being the day fixed by the Constitution of the United States for the meeting of Congress, the Capitol was crowded by throngs of spectators at an early hour. The galleries and lobbies of the two Houses were filled to overflowing.

In the SENATE the credentials of Messrs. Van Winkle and Willey, elected as members from the State of West Virginia, were presented by Mr. Collamer. The credentials of Mr. Conness, elected Senator from the State of California, were presented, and he appeared, was qualified, and took his seat. The credentials of Mr. Henderson, re-elected a Senator from the State of Missouri, were presented, and he appeared and was qualified.

Mr. Davis reised a question as to the propriety of administering the oath to the Senators elect from West Virginia. He doubted whether they were legally and constitutionally Senators. There was no such State as that of West Virginia, and consequently there could be no Senators from such a State. The question was, simply, whether the Senate should recognise the State of West Virginia as a State of the United States. There was but one State of Virginia, legally and constitutionally. He did not believe the Old Dominion could, polypus-like, be divided into several living fragments. New States could be admitted in conformity with the Constitution, but in this case the proceeding was, in his opinion, in direct violation of the Constitution. He moved to lay the matter on the table.

After some conversation as to the proper and usual mode of reaching the object, which was a decision of the Senate upon the admission of the Senators, in which the President and Messrs. Davis, Collamer, Foote, Hale, Fessenden, and others took part, the motion of Mr. Davis was varied so as to present the question directly upon the right of the Senators elect to be qualified.

On the proposition in this form Mr. Davis called for the yeas and nays, and there appeared, on a call of the roll, yeas 36, nays 5, to wit: Messrs. Buckslew, Davis, Henderson, McDougall, and

The Senators elect from the State of West Virginia were then qualified and took their seats.

Mr. Sherman submitted a resolution that the Committee on the Judiciary inquire and report whether Robert Wilson, of Missouri, is still a member of this body.

Mr. Lane, of Indiana, gave notice of bills to repeal the three-hundred dollar clause in the enrollment act, and to increase the pay of officers and non-commissioned officers of the army fifty per cent,

A committee was appointed, as usual, to wait on the President, in conjunction with any committee of the House, and inform him that the two Houses are organized and ready to proceed to business. The Senate then adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

At 12 o'clock the Hon. EMERSON ETHERIDGE, the Clerk of the House, called the Representatives to order. and said that he would proceed to call the roll of members, and of those only whose credentials ch were regularly elected in accordance their States, respectively, or the laws

The Clerk then read the names of nearly all the which had not been placed on the roll because they did not show what, in the opinion of the Clerk, was designed by the act of Congress of March last.

The act here alluded to was approved on the 3d o March last, and provides as follows :

"That before the first meeting of the next Congress, and of every subsequent Congress, the Clerk of the next preceding House of Representatives shall make a roll of the Representatives elect, and place thereon the names of all persons, and of such persons only, whose credentials show that they were regularly elected in accordance with the laws of their States, respectively, or the laws of the

The names omitted from the roll were those of mem bers from Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, Oregon Missouri, and Kansas. After a conversation on the subject, the Clerk read the

credentials, which he regarded as in improper form, of the members from Maryland. Mr. DAWES moved that the names of the Maryland

members be entered upon the roll, and demanded the previous question. Mr. J. C. ALLEN moved to lay that motion on the ta

ble; and the question being taken, it was decided in the negative-yeas 74, nays 94. The resolution offered by Mr. Dawes was then adopt

ed, and the names of the Maryland delegation ordered to Mr. DAVIS, of Maryland, offered a resolution to admit

the names of the Missouri members to the roll, and this was also adopted. A similar course was pursued in relation to the Repre-

sentatives from Oregon, Kansas, and West Virginia, all of whose names were thus ordered to be entered on the roll. Mr. STEVENS off-red a resolution to strike from the roll the names of the gentlemen who were entered as Representatives from Louisiana. Their credentia's were signed by J. L. Riddell, Governor of Louisiana.

Mr. STEVENS afterwards withdrew this motion, pro mi-ing to renew it when the members should present themselves to be sworn.

A resolution was then offered to admit the members from Virginia, which was agreed to.

ELECTION OF SPEAKER. On motion of Mr. WASHBURNE the House then pro ended to the election of a Speaker, wing poce.

Mr. WASHBURNE nominated Mr. COLFAX. Mr. PENDLETON nominated Mr. Cox.

Mr. ANCONA nominated Mr. DAWSON. Mr. GRIDER pominated Mr. MALLORY

Mr. STEELE, of New York, nominated Mr. STEBBINS Messrs. KING and F. P. BLAIR were also nominated.

The House proceeded to vote, with the following result-Mesers. Pendleton, Dawes, Wadsworth, and Fomeroy acting as tellers: For Mr. Colfax : Messrs. Alley, Allison, Ames, Ander

son, Arnold, Ashley, Baker, Baxier, Beaman, Blaine, Blair of West Virginia, Blow, Boutwell, Boyd, Brandeger, Broomall, Brown of West Virginia, Ambrose W. Clark, Freeman, Clarke, Clay, Cobb, Cole, Creswell, Davis of Maryland, Davis of New York, Dowes, Deming, Dennison, Dixon, Donelly, Driggs, Dumont, Eckley, Bliot Farusworth, Fenton, Frank, Garfield, Gooch, Grinnel Hale, Higby, Hooper, Hotchkies, Hubbard of Iowa, Hub bard of New York, Hubbard of Connecticut, Jenckes, Julian, Kasson, Kelley, Kellogg of Michigan, Kellogg of New York, Kernan, Littlejohn, Lean, Longyear, Lovejoy, McAllister, McBride, McClurg, McIndoe, Miller of New York, Moorhead, Morrill, Morris of New York, Amo Myers of Pennsylvania, Leonard Myers of Pennsylvania Myers of Fennsylvania, Leonard myers of Fennsylvania, Norton, O'Neil of Pennsylvania, Orth, Patterson, Perham, Pike, Pomeroy, Price, Rice of Massachusets, Rice of Maine, Rollins of New Hampshire, Schenck, Scofield, Shannon, Sloan, Smith, Smithers, Spaulding, Starr, Stevens, Thayer, Tracy, Upson, Van Valkenburg, Washburns of Illinois, Washburne of Massachusetts, Webster Whaley, Williams, Wilder, Wilson, Windom, and Wood

For Mr. Cox: Mesers. James C. Allen, William J. Allen, Augustus C. Baldwin, Blies, Brown, Cravens, Dawan, Eden, Edgerton, Eldridge, English, Finck, Harrington,

Charles M. Harris, Herrick, Ho'man, Hutchins, William Johnson, Kalbfl-isch, Knapp, Law, Le Blond, Long, Marcy, McDowell, McKenney, Middleton, James R. Morris, Morrison, Noble, John O Neale, Pendleton, Perry, Robinson, Rogers, Ross, William G. Steele, Sweat, Voothees, Wheeler, Chilton A. White, and Joseph W. White.

For Mr. Dawson: Messrs. Ancoun, Baily, Coffroth Cox, Dennison, Philip Johnson, Lazear, McAllister, Wil-liam M. Miller, Samuel J. Randall, Stiles, and Strouse.

For Mr. Mallory: Messrs Brooks, Grider, Harding Benjamin G. Hartis, King, James S. Rollins, Stuart Wadsworth, Ward, and Yeaman. For Mr King: Messrs. Chanler, Hall, Mallory, Radford

Sc. tt, and Fernando Wood. For Mr. Stebbins: Messrs. Ganson, Griswold, Kernan Nelson, Odell, Prayn, John B. Steele, and Winfield. For Mr. Blair, of Missouri: Messrs. Cottman and Field.

For Mr. Stiles: Mr. B. Wood. Mr. Colfax 101 | Mr. Stebbins Mr. Cox 42 Mr. King...

Mr. Dawson 12 Mr. F. P. Blair.

Mr. Mallory 10 Mr. Stiles 181

Necessary to a choice..... 92 The tellers having proclaimed the result of the vote the Clerk announced that, in accordance with the laws o Congress, the Hon. SCHUYLER COLFAX was duly elected Speaker of the House of Representatives of the Thirtyeighth Congress.

Mr. COLFAX was then conducted to the chair by Messrs. DAWSON, of Pennsylvania, and Cox, of Ohio, and before taking his seat he addressed the House as follows:

Gentlemen of the House of Representatives : ing of a Congress destined to face and settle the most important questions of the century, and during whose existence the rebellion, which has passed its culmination will, beyond all question, thanks to our army and navy and Administration, die a deserved death. Not only wi your constituents watch with the strictest scrutiny your eliberations here, but the friends of liberty, to the mo distant lands, will be interested spectators of your acts i this greater than Roman forum. I invoke you to approach these grave questions with the calm thoughtfulness of statesmen, freeing your discussions from that acerbity which delays instead of advancing legislation, and with unshaken reliance on that Divine Power, which gave victory to those who formed this Union, and can give eve greater victory to those who are seeking to save it from destruction by the hand of the parricide and traitor. I in voke you also to remember that sacred truth, which a voke you also to remember that sacred truth, which all history verifies, that "they who rule not in righteousness shall perish from the earth." Thanking you with a grateful heart for this distinguished mark of your confidence nd regard, and appealing to you all for that support and forbearance by the aid of which alone I can hope to succeed, I am now ready to take the oath of office and enter upon the duties you have assigned me.

Mr. E. B. WASHBURNE, being the senior member of the House, advanced to the area is front of the Speaker's chair and administered the new oath of office to the Speaker, who then proceeded to administer the same oath to the members of the House.

Mr. STEVENS, during the swearing in of the members objected to the reception of the gentlemen from Louisiana Mr. BROOKS thought the usual course should be pur sued—the members sworn in, and the case referred to the Committee on Electious. He asked to proceed with the organization, as the election of Speaker had showed that there would be no difficulty in electing the friends of the

gentleman from Pennsylvania to the other offices. Mr. STEVENS said it was not an extraordinary course that there was no pretence of an election; and that the person signing their credentials no one had ever heard of

The House refused to allow the oath to be administered and the case was referred for examination. After further discussion upon several contested points

connected with the swearing in of delegations-The House adjourned.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8, 1863.

In the SENATE, during the morning hour, Mr CLARK, by consent, introduced a bill to grant a pension to John L. Burns, of Gettysburg. Mr. Burns is an octogenarian, but, notwithstanding his age, he shouldered a musket and fought against the enemy in the battles of Gettysburg.

Mr. WILSON, of Massachusetts, submitted a re solution of inquiry by the Committee on Military Affairs as to the legislation necessary to facilitate the payment of arrears of pay and pensions due to deceased soldiers.

Mr. DAVIS submitted a resolution declaring negro soldiers and their white officers should not prevent the exchange of our other soldiers and officers in rebel prisons on just terms, such as will prevent suffering to our brave officers and men.

Mr. SHERMAN called up his resolution for an inquiry by the Committee on the Judiciary whether Robert Wilson is entitled to a seat in this body as Senator from Missouri. After some conversation, in which it appeared to be the opinion of those who spoke that the case required no reference, and that it had been settled by precedent-

Mr. Powell remarked that the whole question depended upon one fact, whether the Legislature of Missouri really adjourned sine die, or only took a recess before coming together lately and electing another Senator. If the Legislature adjourned another Senator. If the Legislature adjourned were temporarily occupied by Federal troops, and say without electing, the appointment of the Governor they do not wish to run any such risks. While I appland held good until the Legislature was properly assembled and made an election. He would like to have an inquiry into all the facts.

Mr. FESSENDEN said that Mr. Brown was elected in November last, before Congress met, to fill this very seat, and yet Mr. Wilson chose to travel hither to claim a seat, knowing that Mr. Brown would soon follow and be here also. It would be considered that he had come for the purpose of claiming mileage and pay. He supposed Mr. Wilson to be simply under a mistake.

After some further remarks, the question was put whether Mr. Wilson was entitled to a seat, and decided in the negative without a division.

At half-past one, after an hour's recess, the committee appointed on the part of the Senate to wait upon the President and inform him that the two Houses were ready to proceed to business, reported that the President, in reply, said he would make a communication to the two Houses in writing at

half-past twelve o'clock to-morrow. The Senate then adjourned.

The House was chiefly engaged in the election of officers. Mr. EDWARD McPHERSON, of Pennsylvania, was chosen Clerk, having received 101 votes, 86 being necessary to a choice. Mr. N. G. ORDWAY, of New Hampshire, was elected Sergeant-at-Arms; Mr. IRA GOODENOW, Doorkeeper: and Mr. W. S. KING, Postmaster.

Mr. WASHBURNE, of Illinois, offered a resolution, which was unanimously passed, tendering the thanks of Congress to Major Gen. Grant and all officers and soldiers who have fought under him during the rebellion, and providing that the President cause a medal to be struck and presented to Gen Grant in the name of the people of the Uni-

Mr. Cox asked but failed to obtain leave to introduce a resolution requesting the President to Mr. Lovejoy gave notice of a bill to punish

slaveholders throughout the United States and Territories. Mr. MORRILL gave notice of a bill to inform

Great Britain of the desire of this Government to ter.ninate the Reciprocity Treaty. The House then adjourned.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 9, 1868. In the SENATE resolutions from the Legislature

of Connecticut were presented by Mr. FOSTER, asking a modification of the enrollment act. Mr. LANE, of Kansas, gave notice of bills for the adjustment of the accounts of the Fifth and Sixth Kansas regiments, and for auditing the claims and indemnifying citizens of Lawrence, Kansas, for destruction of property by Quantrill's raid. Mr. Powell gave notice of a bill to prevent officers and soldiers of the army from interfering in elections in States. Mr. HALE introduced a bill to grant a pension to the widow of the late Major General Whipple. At half-past twelve o'clock a message was received from the President of the United States, by the hands of his private secretary, together with a proclamation, both of which were read by the Secretary of the Senate, and ordered to be printed, with other accompanying documents. The Senate then proceeded to the election of a Chaplain for that body, and upon the second ballot the Rev. Mr. Sunderland was chosen. A message was received from the House announcing the passage of a joint resolution of thanks to Gen. Grant, and for bestowing medals upon him and his officers. Some discussion ensued as to immediate action thereon, but it being alleged that such hasty action would afford a bad precedent, the resolution

The House was chiefly occupied during the sitting with the reading of the President's message and proclamation. They were ordered to be printed. and a motion to print fifty thousand extra copies was referred to the appropriate committee. A resolution offered by Mr. Cox was adopted, looking to the exchange of prisoners, with an amendment sustaining the Administration in its efforts to accomplish this purpose.

was ordered to lie on the table.

THE UNION SPIRIT IN ARKANSAS.

There is cumulative evidence of the existence in Ar. tansas of a strong feeling of attachment for the old Union. On this point the letters of newspaper correspondents all agree. The Memphis Bulletin speaks of it as follows:

"The alacrity and earnestness with which the people of Arkansas are moving for the restoration of their St its suspended powers is no less surprising than gratifying. That the feeling is real we have no room left for doubt. That the feeling is real we have no room le We have conversed with persons from that State of various conditions of life, from the woodchopper to the planter, the soldier and the civiliau, Unionists and Secessionists, natives of the State and visiters to it from North and South, and we find all agree that the people of Arkansas A correspondent of the Cincinnati Gazette, writing from

Des Arc, Arkansas, says "throughout the entire State there is a sound loyal sentiment." He further says:

"When the war broke out there was a strong party in favor of staying in the Union, but they were out of sight in the vortex of secession. When the war began to be oppressive many men fled to the mountains for security rom the conscription, or came to our lines and joined our ervice. The feeling that impelled them to this was at irst more a natural feeling than a decided love for the Union. The people of Arkansas wished to stay where they were. They were well enough satisfied with the state of affairs and did not desire to change. They, therere, opposed secession, because it was an ion vation. Men were progressive, and this neutral sentiment soon developed into a wholesale loyalty. When the State second, the Convention that carried it out also made a new Constitution, throwing the old one overboard. This new one was specially designed for the Confederate rule, and was t variance with that of the United States. Before Arcanses can return to the fold from which she has wandered. it will be necessary for another Constitution to be formed hat shall be in harmony with that on which the General Government is based. An election will be held as soon as it is safe to do so without fear of interruption by guer-ri las or overawing of any kind. This will not be for some time yet, as the interior is not settled down into a condi

We perceive, however, that the people at Little Rock, the capital of the State, continue active in their efforts to effect a restoration of the legal Government at the earliest possible moment. Union meetings are frequently held at the loyal sentiment in the State is rapidly increasing. The greatest obstacle to a more general demonstration in counties at a distance from Little Rock, and not under the protection of the Union forces, appears to be the apprehension of secession vengeance. To this effect we make the following extract from an able speech recently delivered at one of these meetings by Col. C. C. ANDREWS. of the Third Minnesota Regiment, who is now in command at Little Rock:

"The Federal forces have occupied Ltttle Rock sixtyfive days. This is the third Union meeting the citizens have held, and, considering all circumstances, their attendance here to-day is fair. I am glad to know that the citizens who have been active in these meetings are some of the most worthy and influential men of Arkansas. And yet it appears there are many men in your city who wish to be considered as leyal citizens—and many of whom I believe to be sincere Union men—who avoid your mestings, desiring to refrain from any overt Union acts They point to the injuries sustained heretofore by Union men other portions of the State at the hands of the Confederates, for demonstrations made while those localities nd admire you who come here and publicly ayow your lovalty, I have no reprosches for those who stay away. Unarmed citizens cannot be blamed if they have not yet got over their dread of Confederate and guerrilla vengeauce. We cannot expect every man to be a hero, or to incur risks of martyrdom. I am glad even to feel that a mejority of the people are passively friendly to us, and I will not complain if they wait until every vestige of any organized rebel force in the State is annihilated and every organized rebel force in the State is annihilated and every guerrilla thoroughly cleaned out before they throw up their hats and hurran for the Union. When these things are accomplished I have no doubt they will throw up their bats enough higher and shout enough louder to make up for their past silence. I do not wish to excite false hopes, but I have forward continued. but I believe the Federal flag will henceforward continue to float here at Little Rock, the capital of Arkansas, as lorg and as constantly as it shall float on Bunker Hill. Some of the people here are disposed to console them-selves and others to alarm themselves with the idea that Price's army will come back here. Why, my friends, we have indeed heard that a large number of his men want to come back to Little Rock. They want to come and lay down their arms and take the oath of allegiance. Quite a number of his men have already been here for that pur-pose since Gen. Steele took po-session.

"We learn on good authority, and see by acts, that it is True that a majority of the people of your State are loyal.

It was pleasant the other day to see a full mounted company of Arkansians, numbering ninety-four, as they passed the Capitol on their way from Perry county to be mustered into the United States services. They were dressed in their homespun and carried the flag of the Union at the head of their column. Recruits are coming in fast. Three white regiments are now being organized and are meeting with success. The third regiment has now six companies complete.

Col. Andrews is favorably known to many of our citizens as baving held an important position in the office of the Solicitor of the Treasury during the administration of Mr. Pierce. The remainder of his speech from which we make the foregoing extract is eloquent in its denunciation of the rebellion and in urging the prosecution of the war until it shall have been completely subdued.

Our accounts from Little Rock especially continue to report accessions to the Union strength in that vicinity. People from the country were constantly coming in and taking the oath of allegiance, and many enrolled themselves into companies for home defence. Recruiting for the United States service was also quite active.

Col. Johnson, of the First Arkansas Cavalry, was elected on the 23d ultimo to represent the western district of the State in Congress.

The statement that Gen. Forey, or the French Minister, was furnished by the State Department with Gen. Scott's military maps of Mexico, or other information, preparatory to the French invasion of that country, is erroneous Neither General Forey nor the French Minister, nor any other person, was ever furnished, or, as far as is known, ever asked for any such information,